

Salesian House,
Surrey Lane,
Battersea,
London, SW11 3PB
November 88



Fr. George Preston SDB

Dear Confreres,

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

FR. GEORGE PRESTON SDB

who died at Kippington Grange Nursing Home, Sevenoaks, on Friday the 7th October 1988 aged 71.

Fr Preston was born in Horwich, Bolton, on the 23rd November in 1916. He attended the local primary school, then Thornleigh Salesian College. Captivated by the Salesian spirit like his brother John, he followed him into the Salesian Society, making his novitiate at Cowley Oxford, 1933-34. He was triennially professed in 1934 and proceeded to philosophical studies in Cowley for two years. He then taught for three years at Salesian College, Battersea. Perpetual profession came in 1939 and four years of theology, culminating in Priestly Ordination in 1943. He went to Salesian College, Chertsey, for three years, then, once more following his brother John, he sailed to South Africa. He held various posts as teacher, spiritual father and headmaster in Salesian schools at Landsdowne and Daleside where he also won the hearts of the boys with his skills at cricket and football.

In 1969 his health gave rise to anxiety and he returned to England to act as chaplain to the Salesian Sisters in Hastings. He then pursued several 'obediences' for the Salesians: 1972-3 he was guide in St Callistus' catacombs in Rome; he helped on the Mission Staff in New Rochelle; he preached for the missions in several dioceses in England and, when based at Battersea, although weak in health, he supplied for priests on holiday in several parishes.

His last year at Battersea was one of severe ill-health, borne with as much fortitude and cheerfulness as his frailty could muster.

May God our Father through the intercession of Mary Help of Christians, the Queen of Peace and our Mother, grant him now the reward of those who die in the Lord. Let us who are his Salesian brothers remember him at the altar. Please remember also in your prayers this Salesian Community and all its needs.

Sincerely in Jesus Christ

JOHN DOCHERTY SDB
(RECTOR)